

THE HONORABLE MARSHA J. PECHMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

GOOSE RIDGE, LLC and GOOSE RIDGE
VINEYARDS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE OHIO CASUALTY INSURANCE
COMPANY, a foreign insurance company,

Defendant.

No.: 2:24-cv-01058-MJP

~~PROPOSED~~ STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER

NOTED ON THE MOTION CALENDAR:
February 28, 2025

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery and briefing in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted.

Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c).

The Protective Order does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the

applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle either Party to file confidential information under seal.

2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

“Confidential” material shall include the following documents and tangible things produced or otherwise exchanged:

- 1) Ohio’s claims handling manuals; and
- 2) Documents related to or produced in the underlying *K Vintners LLC v. Goose Ridge LLC*, et al. arbitration (“Arbitration”) that the parties to the Arbitration marked as confidential or agreed to treat as confidential;
- ~~3) Other documents expressly marked as confidential.~~

The Parties retain the right to seek by stipulation or motion to enlarge this list as discovery proceeds in the event that any Party seeks additional information not included in the above description which is entitled to protections and is otherwise discoverable under Rule 26 and the local rules.

3. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material.

However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

Confidential material is not considered part of the public domain at trial or otherwise when the Parties adhere to sections 4.2 and 4.3 of this Order. All such information retains its confidential protections if use was pursuant to a Protective Order, Confidentiality Agreement, Order of a Court, governmental subpoena, regulatory compliance activity, or

1 inadvertent disclosure that was subsequently remedied.

2 4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

3 4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is
4 disclosed or produced by another party in connection with this case only for prosecuting,
5 defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only
6 to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement.
7 Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in
8 a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this
9 agreement.

10 4.2 Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless otherwise
11 ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may
12 disclose any confidential material only to:

13 (a) the receiving party's counsel of record in this action and the Arbitration, as
14 well as employees of counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information
15 for this litigation;

16 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of the
17 receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the
18 parties agree that a particular document or material produced is for Attorney's Eyes Only and
19 is so designated;

20 (c) experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this
21 litigation and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound"
22 (Exhibit A). The Parties must provide signed Acknowledgments from each expert at the time
23 of testimony at deposition or trial, as applicable. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(2);

24 (d) the court, court reporters, and other court staff and personnel, mediators,
25 arbitrators, jury consultants, or factfinder(s);
26

1 (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of
2 confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging
3 service instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to
4 immediately return all originals and copies of any confidential material;

5 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is
6 reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be
7 Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the
8 court. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal
9 confidential material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be
10 disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Order;

11 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian
12 or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information; and

13 (h) the Division of Insurance, law enforcement officers, and/or other government
14 agencies, as required by applicable state and federal law.

15 4.3 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing
16 or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating
17 party, in accordance with Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(A), to determine whether the designating
18 party will remove the confidential designation, whether the document can be redacted, or
19 whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. During the meet and
20 confer process, the designating party must identify the basis for sealing the specific
21 confidential information at issue, and the filing party shall include this basis in its motion to
22 seal, along with any objection to sealing the information at issue. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets
23 forth the procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a
24 party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal. A party who seeks to
25 maintain the confidentiality of its information must satisfy the requirements of Local Civil
26 Rule 5(g)(3)(B), even if it is not the party filing the motion to seal. Failure to satisfy this

1 requirement will result in the motion to seal being denied without prejudice.

2 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

3 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each
 4 party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must take care
 5 to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate
 6 standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of material,
 7 documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other portions of
 8 the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are
 9 not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

10 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are
 11 shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to
 12 unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary
 13 expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the designating party to sanctions.

14 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it
 15 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly
 16 notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

17 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided herein
 18 (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(b) below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered,
 19 disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly
 20 so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

21 (a) Information in documentary form: (e.g., paper or electronic documents and
 22 deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
 23 proceedings), the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL – PRODUCED
 24 PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER" to each page that contains confidential material.
 25 If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the producing
 26

1 party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate
2 markings in the margins).

3 (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: the designating
4 party must identify on the record, during the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, all
5 protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other testimony after
6 reviewing the transcript. Any Party may, within fifteen days after receiving the transcript of
7 the deposition or other pretrial proceeding, designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits
8 thereto, as confidential. If a Party desires to protect confidential information at trial, the issue
9 should be addressed during the pre-trial conference.

10 (c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place on
11 the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word
12 “CONFIDENTIAL – PRODUCED PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER.” If only a
13 portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection, the producing party, to the
14 extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

15 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
16 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating
17 party’s right to secure protection under this Order for such material. Upon timely correction
18 of a designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the material
19 is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

20 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

21 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of
22 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party’s confidentiality
23 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic
24 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right
25 to challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after
26 the original designation is disclosed.

6.2 Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding confidential designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in a declaration or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer conference with other affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action. The certification must list the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith effort to confer requires a face-to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under Local Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden of persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall continue to maintain the material in question as confidential until the court rules on the challenge.

7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION

If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL – PRODUCED PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER,” that party must:

- (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of the subpoena or court order;
- (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this Order; and

(c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Order, the receiving party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED MATERIAL

When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, including the protections provided for in this Order, the obligations of the receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the entry of a non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

10.1 Within 60 days after the final determination of this action, including all appeals, the receiving party must shred (if paper) or delete (if electronic) all confidential materials, as well as all copies, extracts, notes, reports, memoranda, summaries thereof, or other documents containing such confidential information. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate methods of destruction. Additionally, a receiving Party that discloses another party’s confidentially designated material to experts and consultants shall provide

1 written confirmation that the receiving experts and consultants have returned and/or
2 destroyed all confidential material received (without limitation to the foregoing list of
3 documents) as well as all notes, memoranda, and other materials derived from or in any way
4 revealing information relating to the confidential material.

5 10.2 Notwithstanding this provision, counsel for a receiving party is entitled to
6 retain one archival copy of all documents containing confidential material that have been
7 filed with the court, admitted as exhibits at trial, attached as exhibits to depositions,
8 referenced in hearing transcripts, referenced in expert reports exchanged pursuant to Fed. R.
9 Civ. P. 26(b)(2), attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product.

10 10.3 The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in
11 effect until the Court orders otherwise.

1 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

2 GORDON TILDEN THOMAS & CORDELL, LLP

3 DATED: February 28, 2025

s/ Kasey D. Huebner (per e-mail approval)

4 Kasey D. Huebner, WSBA #32890

5 Miles C. Bludorn, WSBA #54238

6 Attorneys for Plaintiff

7 DATED: February 28, 2025

s/ Jared F. Kiess

8 Jared F. Kiess, WSBA #54532

9 Attorneys for Defendant

PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED, with the Court's removal of from Section 2 of the following language "Other documents expressly marked as confidential." This Court removed this language to ensure the Protective Order applies to specific documents, and does not allow for the overbroad designation of confidentiality.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any documents, electronically stored information (ESI) or information, whether inadvertent or otherwise, in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other federal or state proceeding, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product protection, or any other privilege or protection recognized by law. This Order shall be interpreted to provide the maximum protection allowed by Fed. R. Evid. 502(d). The provisions of Fed. R. Evid. 502(b) do not apply. Nothing contained herein is intended to or shall serve to limit a party's right to conduct a review of documents, ESI or information (including metadata) for relevance, responsiveness and/or segregation of privileged and/or protected information before production. Information produced in discovery that is protected as privileged or work product shall be immediately returned to the producing party.

DATED: March 5, 2025



HONORABLE MARSHA J. PECHMAN
United States Senior District Judge

4929-3820-5474.1

EXHIBIT AACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
 _____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty
 of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that
 was issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington on
 _____, 20__ in the case of *Goose Ridge, LLC and Goose Ridge Vineyards, LLC v.*
The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company, Case No. 2:24-cv-01058-MJP. I agree to comply
 with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand
 and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in
 the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any
 information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity
 except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

Within sixty (60) days of the final determination of this action, I shall provide written
 confirmation to counsel of record for Plaintiffs that documents produced by Ohio Casualty
 Insurance Company (or disclosing the contents of documents) designated by Ohio Casualty
 Insurance Company as “Confidential” (“Confidential Information”) has been shredded (if
 paper) or deleted (if electronic), including the shredding and deletion of all copies, extracts
 and summaries thereof.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the
 Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated
 Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____